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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

September 10, 2013

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ACTING FCC CHAIRWOMAN CLYBURN STATEMENT ON VOLUNTARY INDUSTRY SOLUTION RESOLVING LOWER 700 MHZ INTEROPERABILITY

"America's mobile consumers have a reason to celebrate today: After many frustrating years, wireless carriers have finally reached a voluntary industry solution that will resolve the lack of interoperability in the lower 700 MHz band in the most efficient manner. This is a big win for consumers, especially in rural areas, who will see more competition and more choices. Also, by making it easier for small wireless carriers to compete, today's interoperability solution will spur private investment, job creation, and the development of innovative new services and devices.

"That's why for the past few years, I have been consistent in pushing for a final resolution to this issue. Thank you to all the parties - AT&T, The Interoperability Alliance, The Competitive Carriers Association, DISH, and the consumer advocacy groups - who came to the table and worked collaboratively with FCC staff to hammer out a solution that benefits all consumers.

"Many thanks to my staff, especially Michele Ellison, Ruth Milkman and Louis Peraertz, for going above and beyond the call of duty to achieve this groundbreaking result."